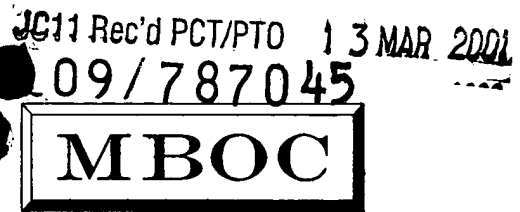


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Patents, Trademarks,  
Copyrights, Trade Secrets  
and Related Litigation

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March 13, 2001

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: National Phase U.S. Patent Application for  
PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF WEAR-  
RESISTANT SURFACES  
Based on PCT Application No. PCT/EP99/06800, filed September 14, 1999  
Claiming priority to: German Pat. App. No. 19842284.9 filed September 16, 1998  
Applicant for U.S. Application: Christof Lausser, Hans-Jürgen Lauth  
Citizenship of Applicants Germany  
Our File No. 1587.GLE.PT

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing the above-referenced application under 35 U.S.C. 371 are the following:

1. Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office Concerning A Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371 and
2. A copy of the PCT Application as originally filed, along with a translation. (The certification of the translation will be forwarded when received.)
3. A copy of the International Search Report.
4. A copy of the front page of the WO-publication.
5. A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report, including annexes, including translations.
6. A copy of Amended Claims 1 and 5, including translations.
7. A Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail" certifying a filing date of March 13, 2001 by use of Express Mail No. EL593621459US.

Assistant Commissioner  
March 13, 2001  
Page 2

8. A Preliminary Amendment
9. A Credit Card Authorization in the amount of \$970.00
10. A post card for acknowledgment of receipt of the application.

Please direct all future correspondence to:

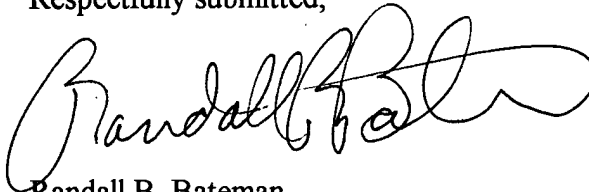
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Account No. 50-881.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March 2001.

Respectfully submitted,



Randall B. Bateman  
Registration No. 37,774

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